

The Catholic Library World

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THE CATHOLIC LIBRARY WORLD

THE CATHOLIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

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CALENDAR OF SCHEDULED EVENTS

1950

February 1-28—Catholic Press Month.

February 12-19—Negro History Week. Kit containing booklists and other materials available from Associated Publishers, Inc., 1538 9th St., N.W., Washington 1, D.C. Price: \$2.50.

February 18—Brooklyn-Long Island Unit: Winter Meeting. St. John's Preparatory School, Brooklyn, 2 P.M. Panel discussion: Library Assistants, Sister M. Rosaire, O.P., chairman.

February 18—Greater St. Louis Unit: Annual Meeting. St. Louis University Library.

February 18—New York-New Jersey Unit: Mid-Winter Meeting. St. Walburga's Academy, New York City, 2:30 P.M. Speaker: Rev. Irenaeus Herscher, O.F.M.

February 19—Western New York Catholic Librarians' Conference: Monthly Meeting. Bishop Timon High School, Buffalo, 2:30 P.M.

February 19-25—Catholic Book Week, 10th annual observance. Theme: Holy Reading Maketh the Whole Man. Kit, containing posters, Ideas for Catholic Book Week, and *Catholic Booklist, 1950*, available from Catholic Library Association, P.O. Box 25, Kingsbridge Sta., New York 63, N. Y. Price: \$1.00. Payment must accompany order.

February 19-26—National Brotherhood Week. For information, write the National Conference of Christians and Jews, Inc., 381 Fourth Ave., New York 16, N. Y.

April 10-14—Twenty-Fourth Annual Conference, Catholic Library Association, Washington, D.C. Theme: The Catholic Librarian's Role in the Peace Plan.

April 12—Maryland Unit: Business Meeting. National Catholic School of Social Service Library, Mullen Library, Catholic University, 2 P.M.

May 6—All day Institute for four Units of the metropolitan New York area. George F. Johnson Library, St. Peter's College, Jersey City. Rev. Joseph F. Cantillon, S.J., chairman.

May 13—Richmond Diocesan Unit. Spring Meeting.

May 24-26—Catholic Press Association, 40th Annual Conference, Rochester, N. Y.

June 10-14—Canadian Library Association: Annual Conference. Mount Royal Hotel, Montreal, P. Q. Theme: The Library and the Community

July 16-22—American Library Association: Annual Conference. Cleveland, Ohio.

July 24-29—University of Chicago Graduate Library School: 15th Annual Conference. Subject: Bibliographic Organization.

November—Minnesota-Dakota Unit: 15th Annual Conference. St. Thomas College, St. Paul.

CATHOLIC BOOK WEEK, 1950

By DOM BERNARD THEALL, O.S.B.

Chairman, Catholic Book Week, 1950

The slogan for this year's Book Week has been chosen especially to relate the Week to the Holy Year, towards the celebration of which the Catholic library can contribute much, particularly to those who will not be able to make the pilgrimage to the Holy City. More than this, though, there is a special aptness in the reminder that HOLY READING MAKETH THE WHOLE MAN, since so often these days, in the fields of religion, education, and philosophy, there is called to our attention the need for wholeness on the part of the individual—the technical term in the fields referred to (in particular, education) being "integration". It is integration, then, that is one of the aims of this year's Book Week and one of the terms of its slogan; it is not enough to say, in praise of reading, as Bacon did, that it "maketh a full man", for fulness is not necessarily a term of praise.

In his very helpful list of "Ideas for Catholic Book Week", last year, Richard Hurley pointed out that the promotional and inspirational features of the Week ought not be seasonal aspects of the Catholic library year, but that every week of every year is for us Catholic Book Week. This ought to be particularly true of the coming year, when the library should do its part to see that those who patronize it are kept in the spirit of the Holy Year. This is not to say that the Catholic library will forego its intellectual, informational, and educative functions, or even lessen them in favor of a heightened emphasis on spirituality—but that by displays, reading lists, book talks, and other promotional activities there will be kept before the patrons the importance of a prayerful celebration of the Holy Year.

For Book Week itself, displays and talks centered about the Holy Year and the Holy City will suggest themselves. Most publishers have raced to put on their lists, or to bring back into print, books about the Holy

Year and about Rome. In many cases these are finely illustrated, and lend themselves effectively to display. Ann Carnahan's *The Vatican*, Herbert Bittner and Ernest Nash's *Rome: Portrait of the Holy City*, and Father Herbert Thurston's *Holy Year of Jubilee* are suggestions in this field. Therese Bonney's fine book of Vatican pictures, now several years old, but timely just now, is also recommended here. Many of the popular magazines, slicks and otherwise, are featuring pictures of Rome and the Vatican, which could well be used for display purposes.

Holy reading, the *divina lectio* of the Fathers, means specifically, of course, reading about God and the things of God, and book lists and displays to this purpose ought to feature the week and the year—but they should be solidly based on volumes of genuine worth. In the field of spiritual reading, as much as in any other, it is perhaps useful advice that "Whenever a new book comes out, the thing to do is to read an old one". This is oversimplification, of course, since we have today such fine authors of current materials as Father Vann, Father Valentine, Dom Hubert Van Zeller, Monsignor Sheen, and the like—but there would be value in calling attention to older works.

It is, in fact, my own experience that at the present time Catholic readers are quite receptive to suggestions about the reading—or re-reading—of religious classics. In Washington much interest has been shown in an informal group of lectures I have been offering on such works as Newman's *Idea of a University*, Chesterton's *Orthodoxy*, Belloc's *Path to Rome*, and similar books. One hesitates to set up such things as a "Catholic Great Books" program on a more formal basis, but people are hungry for them, by way of a change from the current emphasis on best sellers.

One great danger in emphasizing best sell-

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ers, especially in the field of fiction, is that it is necessary to condemn so many of them, and there is little value in negative criticism, by way of making readers or encouraging incipient devotees of reading. It is always a dozen times more valuable to call attention to books that should be read, books about which the speaker or writer is tremendously enthusiastic, and for which he feels an evangelist's enthusiasm, than to be continually pointing out what is wrong with best sellers.

There is, then, I firmly believe, a great opportunity during Catholic Book Week for revivifying interest in our literary heritage. This is not, of course, incompatible with promoting more recent and timely volumes.

The Holy Year has been designated by Pope Pius XII as "The Year of the Great Return". It would seem, therefore, to be a propitious season for emphasizing the autobiographical element in Catholic literature in terms of the stories of those who have made the Great Return. Recent books of the sort have been very popular, of course—one need look no further than *The Seven Storey Mountain*—but there is much of value in the self-told stories of Newman, Chesterton, Robert Hugh Benson, Ronald Knox, and Bishop Kinsman, and older autobiographies generally. The emphasis, however, should be on high literary quality, equally with religious sincerity.

I should like to suggest that Catholic librarians, also, might celebrate a "Year of Great Return", by dipping, even if briefly (because librarians are hard-pressed for leisure), into some of the fonts of intellectual and literary inspiration that belong peculiarly to us as Catholics. To revitalize devo-

tion to books, there is Bishop Richard de Bury's *Philobiblon*, available in several editions, especially in a fine recent one from the University of California Press. For recalling to mind that our vocation is primarily an intellectual one, there are, to give but two examples: Newman's *Idea of a University*, deserving to be bound—not only by the young student of literature, but by the librarian also—"for a frontlet on his brow and for a talisman on his writing wrist", to quote Quiller-Couch; and Père Sertillanges' never-to-be-sufficiently-praised *Intellectual Life*, available for some years now in an English translation. And lest, while preaching to others, the librarian should become a cast-away, let him look to the *lectio divina* as an integral part of his own life, intellectual as well as spiritual. The spirit in which this holy reading is to be undertaken has been well sketched recently by Dom Alban Baer, in an article in *Commonweal*. No librarian ought to externalize the celebration of Catholic Book Week, with its plea to others for holy reading as a way to integration, while neglecting it himself.

Into the purely promotional and display and activity aspects of Book Week, I do not presume to enter, since Mr. Hurley has again given us the benefit of his thought and experience in the matter. I have tried briefly to sketch out some of the more interior dispositions, to borrow a phrase from ascetical theology, that may well animate the Catholic librarian during the Week we celebrate in February, and during the year upon which we have entered, following in spirit, if not in the flesh, our Holy Father through Rome's great Holy Door.

TWENTY-FOURTH ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Catholic University, Washington, D. C.

April 10-14, 1950.

Theme: The Catholic Librarian's Role in the Peace Plan

(For details, cf. CATHOLIC LIBRARY WORLD, p. 122, January, 1950)

Have you made your reservations? Please do so now, and thus avoid disappointment later. Address your request to:

MR. EUGENE P. WILLGING
Catholic University of America Library
Washington 17, D. C.

CONVENT VOICES¹

By CLARENCE A. FORBES, Ph.D.

Department of Classical Languages, The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio

AETHERIA

In the time of St. Augustine, the late fourth century, a Spanish nun of some importance, probably an Abbess, made a pilgrimage to the Holy Land. The nun's name was Aetheria. She wrote an account of her travels and impressions under the simple title *Itinerarium*. This book, after being lost for many centuries, was found again in 1887. An Italian scholar named Gamurrini rediscovered Aetheria's travelogue, minus the opening pages, in an eleventh-century MS at Arezzo, and brought out the editio princeps at Rome in 1887.² The book in its present incomplete condition fills 50 solid octavo pages, and is the longest single book written in the Latin language by a woman. Clearly Latin is one language in which women have not been loquacious.

The discovery of the *Itinerarium* supplied a capitial document to enhance our knowledge of Vulgar Latin. The vulgarisms in spelling, forms, syntax, and vocabulary mount into the thousands. Aetheria expressed result by *ut* with the subjunctive or *ut* with the indicative, purpose by *ut* with the subjunctive or just by the infinitive, and indirect questions by either the subjunctive or the indicative. In all such matters she exhibited a feminine ability to change her mind and to rise above the laws of grammar, which, after all, were formulated by mere men.

Her style is simple, monotonous, prosaic, and pedestrian. Through the Holy Land she went on foot, and through the *Itinerarium* her prose goes on foot. The sentences are short. In fifty pages we find not one simile, not one metaphor. Countless sentences begin with "And so"; and so we may

regard her as the foundress of the "And so" style, beloved by high-schoolers and abominated by English teachers in all of our forty-eight states and Alaska. In her guide-book style she found "i.e." handy, and used it 131 times. The inartistic repetitiousness of her vocabulary and phraseology is so conspicuous that a learned friend of mine suggested that Aetheria must be the remote ancestress of Gertrude Stein: "Rose is a rose is a rose is a rose."

She wrote of herself, "I am a very inquisitive person", and indeed her book gives overflowing evidence of her indefatigable curiosity. She wanted to see with her own eyes every one of the holy places, especially of the Old Testament, and nothing could stop her. The document saith not what costume she wore, but she took mountain-climbing in stride. Part of her pilgrimage was through the Arabian desert, along the route followed by the Israelites when they fled from Egypt and headed for the promised land of milk and honey. To protect her from brigands and marauders a detachment of Roman soldiers had to escort her. The dangers did not bother Aetheria, and she showed herself not the least mite skittish. One Sunday morning she climbed up Mount Sinai by a rough trail, and reached the summit at 11:00 A.M. Sister Aetheria was a hustler. About the same century a French monk named Postumian took a good look at Mount Sinai and decided that to climb would be impossible.³ *Das Ewig-Weibliche zieht uns hinan*—but Postumian said, "No, thanks".

In the due course of time Aetheria died and was gathered to her fathers. Her book, intended primarily for the Sisters in her own convent, was soon buried in oblivion; it is surprising that even a single mutilated copy survived until our own day. With Aetheria's precedent unknown or forgotten, the world

1. Presented at the meeting of the Columbus Unit, November 12, 1949.

2. Gamurrini's ascription of the book to St. Silvia of Aquitaine has since been corrected.

3. Sulpicius Severus, *Dialogi*, Bk. 1.

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waited a long time before another voice ventured to speak from the convent.

HROTSVITHA

During the ninth century the Benedictine Order established in the Harz Mountains of central Germany a convent at a little place called Gandersheim. Among the Sisters of this convent in the tenth century was a gentle lady named Hrotsvitha. Hers is a hard name to spell, but luckily there are at least four ways of spelling it, and all of them correct. We know precious little about the life of Hrotsvitha. Although she became a writer, she is not mentioned by any contemporary. There were only a few writers in Germany in the tenth century, and those few either did not know about Hrotsvitha or else found no occasion to speak to her. So we may as well proceed at once to consider her literary efforts.

She began her poetic career early in life, but kept it a secret from the other nuns at Gandersheim. She wrote and erased and wrote again. Finally she had ready five epic and elegiac poems on various saints and martyrs. These she handed over to her former teacher, Gerberg, who was in charge of the convent. Not very much later she gave Abbess Gerberg three more similar poems. Still later she mustered enough courage to publish the eight poems in a little book, with a preface addressed to readers in general. Most interesting is "Theophilus", a poem about a man who deliberately sold his soul to the devil. This theme has become exceedingly famous in the world's literature, through such works as Christopher Marlowe's *Doctor Faustus*, Goethe's *Faust*, and S. V. Benét's *The Devil and Daniel Webster*.

From the composition of elegiac and short epic poems on saints and martyrs Hrotsvitha next turned to her most famous work—a series of short plays on Christian subjects. Drama had been effectively dead ever since Seneca laid down his pen in the first century of the Christian era. It was a bold stroke for a woman, and a nun at that, to attempt a revival even of closet drama. In classical Greek and Roman times very few women had written lyric poetry, but none had written plays. Hrotsvitha in her preface translates her name into Latin as *Clamor*

validus Gandeshemensis; and indeed we feel that it is a strong voice and a bold spirit that speaks to us from Gandersheim.

Her preface to the dramas reveals that many good Christians still preferred the pagan writers because of their stylistic beauty, and particularly were they fond of the delightful plays of Terence. Even those who eschewed other books of pagan Rome were willing to keep and read the Terentian comedies for the sake of the admirable conversational Latin. So Hrotsvitha proposed to copy his manner, not his matter: to imitate his smooth colloquial style, but to replace his shameless courtesans by maidens of holy purity. Her aim was to provide for the world of her time, the medieval world, a group of Christian plays which might supplant the godless plays of Terence. And since Terence had written exactly six plays, she did the same.

Hrotsvitha's chief dramatic subject or leitmotiv is chastity. The dramatic conflict is between chastity and passion, taken to be emblematic of Christianity and paganism. The upshot of the plays is the triumph of Christianity through the heroic chastity of woman. Yet, with all her emphasis on chastity, Hrotsvitha did not deplore marriage. Like St. Paul, she thought it was better to marry than to burn—but still better to do neither.

Among dramatic devices, the *deus ex machina* is one that Hrotsvitha used lavishly. At a signal of God's will, a hardened character immediately does a flip-flop and becomes as gentle as a lamb, as soft as putty. In plays as short as these, only a few pages apiece, there is no room for characters to develop or undergo a slow transformation. To get old Scrooge into the Christmas spirit took a lot of doing; but when Hrotsvitha's characters are converted, they are converted with a bang.

There was no question of presenting her plays on the stage; Terence's plays were not being presented in the tenth century and neither were anybody else's. Hrotsvitha was not trying to crowd Terence off the stage, since he was already off and there was no stage. Rather her deliberate aim was to wean religious people away from Terence and to put them on a Christianized diet. Her plays are therefore to be regarded strictly as

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closet drama. Any one who desires to read a sample might find most interesting the one called *Abraham*.

ST. TERESA OF AVILA

In a desolate region of central Spain the city of Avila "was proverbially said to be made of stones and saints". Out of the stones there arose in the sixteenth century a "sane, vigorous, intelligent, humorous" girl who became a saint.⁴ She lived for sixty-seven years, and was a Carmelite nun from the age of eighteen. Her mother had died at the age of thirty-three after bearing nine children, and her father was quite unwilling to let any one of his three daughters become a nun. Teresa, a strong-minded person who became accustomed to resisting unreasonable menfolks all her life, simply eloped and entered the Convent of the Incarnation. Her father quickly became reconciled and let her stay.

In the convent she soon became ill and had to entrust herself to the tender mercies of sixteenth-century Spanish doctors. They took a long time in curing her, and their cure had the lasting effect of providing her with poor health for the rest of her days.

Aside from her writings, St. Teresa's reputation rests on the three pillars of her Carmelite reforms, her asceticism, and her mysticism. As a visionary and a mystic she had extraordinary experiences, which she recorded in three books: *Autobiography*, *Relations*, and *Interior Castle*. As a record of a soul these books stand next to the *Confessions* of St. Augustine. She was a personal friend of another great mystical writer, St. John of the Cross. Her mysticism was not scholarly but personal, and her mystical writings were based wholly on her own experiences.

Her prose and poetry were written in Spanish, and the poor thing was ignorant of Latin, as far as a nun can be ignorant of Latin. Her power of expression was not founded on the scholarly knowledge of many languages, nor on university training, nor on copious reading and self-education. Her childhood reading consisted mostly of Spanish romances, which were better, but not

notably better, than today's comic books. Later on, what with the distractions of sickness and convent duties, she read only a few books, such as the *Imitation of Christ*, St. Jerome's letters, and St. Gregory's *Moralia*. In quoting the Bible, she sometimes says: "I am not sure whether this quotation is correct, but I think so".

In conversation it was her habit to talk very much and very fast. Correspondingly her style of writing was not condensed, but full, ample, and copious. She used no punctuation and no paragraphs. Her words boiled, rushed, and tumbled out like those of Thomas Wolfe. She wrote the 260 pages of *Interior Castle* in four weeks,⁵ and occasionally some other nun watched in fascination while Teresa's pen danced across the sheets of paper. *Interior Castle* is her most famous book, a spiritually mature account of the mystical and contemplative life. Here are described the seven stages or mansions of prayer, whereby the soul advances gradually toward mystical union with God. "Build thee more stately mansions, O my soul!"

Repetitiousness is a fault with such a chatterbox as St. Teresa was. In one chapter of *Interior Castle*⁶ she wrote: "I could not avoid repeating myself, as my memory is very bad". Her many duties, her ill health, and her visions made her unable to settle down to concentrated and uninterrupted composition.

Unlike her Spanish predecessor, Aethiria, she used metaphors lavishly. She had a feminine fondness for diminutive words. Also she used numbers of homely words, especially in comparisons. For illustrations she referred to such homely and everyday things as hens, parrots, donkeys, fish, chess, and bull-fights. Living in a drought-parched area, she had a fascinated appreciation for the beauties and behavior of water, and she wrote of water as frequently and lovingly as did the Hebrew writers in arid Palestine.

Her thoughts are not always clearly expressed, partly because she had an insufficient vocabulary in philosophy and theology, and partly because human languages are not trained to report the experience of the mystic.

Her sense of humor was lively enough.

4. Sackville-West, Lady V. *The Eagle and the Dove*, New York, Doubleday, 1944, pp. 8 and 9. This is a fine book on the two St. Teresas.

5. The four weeks were not consecutive.

6. II, chap. 1, sect. 1.

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After quoting the Latin, *Beatus vir qui timet Dominum*, she says: "It is no small favor from God that I should be able to translate this verse into Spanish so as to explain its meaning, considering how dense I usually am in such matters." In founding seventeen communities of Reformed Carmelites she traveled a good deal. In the inns were plenty of bugs, and the roads resembled the rocky road to Dublin. St. Teresa's resigned comment was that God may give us much to suffer, "if only from fleas, ghosts, and bad roads". She noticed that some nuns were fakers. They stayed away from choir one day because their head ached, the next day because it had ached, and three more for fear it should ache again. Once she wrote that she couldn't find two emerald rings and a large Agnus Dei. This naive mixture of the secular and the sacred reminds me of my coming home about 5:30 on All Saints Day and being greeted with a shout from my twelve-year-old daughter upstairs: "Daddy, I've got eight souls out of Purgatory and now I'm going to finish my bath."

SISTER MADELEVA

The twentieth century has a nun who is a remarkable poet and a good essayist. Mary Evaline Wolff is a Wisconsin German, born in 1887—the very year when Gamurrini unearthed Aethera's book from oblivion. During her youth she liked outdoor life, long walks, old tales, pretty clothes, and hard

study. Such assorted tastes are not always found in the same individual, for bookish and studious people often are not devotees of the great outdoors. But Mary Evaline was a Catholic with catholic tastes. She had open eyes and an eager mind and a girlish heart. Her feminine delight in rings and things and buttons and bows combined with her taste for the trees and flowers to produce a tiny poem named "Fantasy".

FANTASY⁷

Do you suppose
The cherry tree's white furbelows,
The pretty frills the jonquil shows,
The maple's curious, knotted bows.
The first, pale ruffles of the rose
Are baby-things that April sews
For the sweet world to wear?
Who knows?

Mary Evaline entered the University of Wisconsin, but later transferred to St. Mary's in South Bend, Indiana, in search of Catholic training and Catholic atmosphere. After graduating in 1909, she stayed at St. Mary's to be a Holy Cross nun and an instructor of English. In the religious life she managed to keep parts of her baptismal names under the combined form of Madeleva. Across the highway at Notre Dame she continued her studies and earned the degree of Master of Arts. In 1919 she went west to teach in another St. Mary's in Wasatch, Utah; and there she learned the royal size, the magnificent glory, and the unrivaled colors of the Rocky Mountains.

TRIBUTE⁸

I have known mountains when the day was new
Clothed beyond beauty's self in morning splendor;
Have seen them stand like queens, serene and tender,
Against noon's high tranquillity of blue.
I have watched purple mists and rose-white dew
Cling to them, and the young moon, frail and slender,
Shed on them silver homage of surrender.
I have known this of mountains and of you.

In Utah Sister Madeleva was reasonably close to a great and powerful center of learning, the University of California at Berkeley. Her love of study and thirst for knowledge had not abated, and in 1925 her studies of English literature were crowned with a Ph.D. She was the first nun to receive a Ph.D. from

the University of California. Later she spent one year studying at Oxford University in England and traveling in Europe and the Holy Land. For the last fifteen years, since 1934, Sister Madeleva has been president of her Alma Mater, St. Mary's in South Bend.

7. From *Penelope, and Other Poems*, New York, Macmillan, (c1927 by Sister Madeleva). Used with permission of The Macmillan Company.

8. Only the first part of this sonnet is quoted here. From *Penelope, and Other Poems*, New York, Macmillan, (c1927 by Sister Madeleva). Used with the permission of The Macmillan Company.

CONVENT VOICES

For five years, beginning in 1942, she was president of the Catholic Poetry Society of America.

As a poet Sister Madeleva possesses and brings to bear a comprehensive knowledge of English literature that is rare among nuns. Few indeed are the nuns who both hold a Ph.D. in English and have studied at Oxford. In education and literary culture Sister Madeleva has had tremendous advantages; she makes all of her predecessors appear like country fiddles.

She has at her beck and call a wide variety of meters and poetical forms. Sonnets, couplets, quatrains, ballads, free verse, and many other forms issue from her skillful pen. Most of her poems are brief, and the more recent ones grow briefer. In free verse she is less successful than in the regularly rhythmic and riming forms. One of her poems uses long lines and alliterative effects that are reminiscent of Gerard Manley Hopkins. Even the title is alliterative.

SUEZ CANAL AT SUNSET⁹

Two long, low, level banks of sand and a long, low sky;
On a strong, straight leash of water a thoroughbred boat goes by.
Far to the south a single cluster of palm trees lifts itself like a cry.
Across the long, low, shifting levels and hills of sand comes no reply.
The light in the west that was gold and rose is dead now. I watched it die.

Her poems deal with religion, femininity, children, thoughts stirred by her travels, the spires of Oxford, the hills and chateaux of Southern France, and the beauties of nature from California to Palestine. She often writes on human nature outside of the convent, a theme shunned by most nuns. In other words, she is bolder than most. She has liberated Catholic religious poetry not from the convent but from conventions. She has cast off the unseen shackles which for-

bade nuns to color their poetry with the faintest touch of humor, the faintest touch of secular instead of spiritual language, and the faintest touch of worldly metaphor. She has replaced timidity with vitality. She has many strings to her bow, and her arrows of song are swift and clean and sure. Among nuns who are living and nuns who are dead, Sister Madeleva is the finest and best of the convent voices. The cloisters also have their laureate.

9. From *Gates, and Other Poems*, New York, Macmillan, (c1938 by Sister Madeleva). Used with the permission of The Macmillan Company.

IDEAS FOR CATHOLIC BOOK WEEK, 1950

By RICHARD JAMES HURLEY

Assistant Professor, Department of Library Science, University of Michigan, Ann Arbor

OBJECTIVES

- To spread a knowledge of Catholic books and authors
- To enlist the help of everyone
- To create a demand for the good books on your shelves
- To promote worthwhile interests
- To encourage wholesome reading

PLANS

- In general, plan ahead of time.

- Plan* a program for your library
 - for every classroom
 - for an auditorium assembly
 - for a parish observance

- Appoint* committees of students
 - of teachers
 - of parents
 - of parishioners

- Include* all school departments
 - all clubs and activities
 - all types of interests

THE CATHOLIC LIBRARY WORLD

Get posters from the Headquarters office
book jackets from the publishers
bright, new books from bookstores,
homes, your shelves

Use not only these but also book fairs,
fetes, games, book plays, pantomimes,
quizzes, contests, parties.

LOCALE

In the school

The library with its exhibits of new and
good books

The classrooms with their library cor-
ners and bulletin boards

The auditorium for that all-important
CBW assembly

The gym for the book fete, bazaar, fair or
dance

In the parish

The parish hall for the Sunday after-
noon CBW celebration

The parish church for a sermon on read-
ing Catholic literature

The parish library for an open-house
with refreshments

The church steps for a bookstall and the
distribution of booklists

In the community

The store windows for the colorful

CBW posters and the display of
Catholic books

The public library for a display of the
best of its Catholic collection and the
distribution of booklists

MEANS

Lucile F. Fargo, in her *Activity Book for
School Libraries* (American Library Asso-
ciation, \$2.50) offers many ideas that can be
adapted to your particular group. Among
the numerous suggestions are the following:

Plays, puppet shows, pantomimes, shadow
graphs

Story-telling programs

Dramatizations of outstanding biographies
Mock trials

Book and character parades, floats

Demonstrations of how to use the library

Travel exhibits and travel programs

Treasure hunts

Models and replicas of scenes from books

Essays, themes, literary newspapers

Hobby exhibits, handicraft, drawings

Literary scrapbooks, cartoons, puzzles

Book reviews or book annotations for
school or community papers

Poster contests

Model home libraries

SUGGESTED ACTIVITIES

Elementary Schools

Monday, February 20—*Poster Contests*. Each
classroom has a par-
ade of the posters
each youngster has made, with prizes offered
for the best posters from the viewpoint of
color, originality, and general excellence. Dif-
ferent grades, while incorporating the official
theme, may still use such other themes as
favorite books, the value of reading, etc.
*Viehe's Around the Year with School Library
Publicity* (Sturgis Printing Co., Sturgis, Mi-
chigan, 75¢) will offer much assistance in
this project.

Since posters may be too ambitious a proj-
ect for the children in the lower grades, their
book week activity may consist in the prepa-
ration of 2" x 5" bookmarks from colored
paper. The design may be prepared by the
class teacher and hectographed for the chil-
dren's use. Suitable mottoes for book care
can be included on each bookmark, e.g.,
"Clean Hands Make Clean Books", etc.

Tuesday, February 21—*Story-Telling* and
Book Reviews. A
favorite activity for

book week is the telling of stories. In the
lower grades, the teacher can assign a cer-
tain period of each day during this week for
this pleasant interlude. The story-telling may
be done by the teacher or by upper-graders.
Some of the children may tell part of the
story, and allow the group to finish it.

Of interest, too, will be the story-telling
records now available. Of especial interest
are the American Library Association sets
of Thorne-Thompson and Jack Lester. The
children will also be delighted when they
hear the story of "Cinderella" as recorded
by Ginger Rogers. Other records that will
fascinate are "Treasure Island", as recorded
by Basil Rathbone, "The Pied Piper of
Hamelin", by Alec Templeton, and Paul
Wing's "The Little Engine That Could".

In the upper grades, book reviews may be

IDEAS FOR CATHOLIC BOOK WEEK

featured during the English period. This may include such topics as "My Favorite Author", "The Book I Like Best", or a symposium by the eighth grade pupils on "Our Favorite Books". These reviews may later be a feature of the special school newspaper devoted to the activities of Catholic Book Week.

Wednesday, February 22—*Book Plays*. Since this is a legal holiday, a special gala program may be featured. This may include a play, or a pantomime, or marionette shows, or skits and radio broadcasts—or a combination of all the above. Book plays, long and short, can be found in such periodicals as *The Catholic School Journal*, *The Grade Teacher*, or *The Instructor*. Books containing similar material are: Sanford's *Magic of Books* (Wilson, 1938); Phelps's *Book and Library Plays* (Dodd, Mead, 1929) and Nunmaker's *The Library Broadcasts* (Wilson, 1948). Or write your own, featuring a scene from *Tom Playfair*, book characters coming to life, the adventures of a bookworm, etc. Jacobsen's *Make Friends with Books* (The Children's Book Council, 62 W. 45th St., New York 19, N. Y., \$1) will be very helpful.

Filmstrips and moving pictures will also add interest in this program. Numerous films

are available, some through your state library agency. Others can be obtained from the American Library Association, Young America Films, Coronet and Life.

Selections of the Catholic Children's Book Club should be on display, along with other literature for distribution. In the afternoon and evening, a tea or supper might be held, to which the parents are invited.

Thursday, February 23—*Games and Puzzles*.

How about a Quiz Book Bee in which

one side tries to spell down the other on titles and authors? or Pop-Up Riddles, in which a book character is represented by a four-line rhyme? or a Hidden Title game which contains titles in the sentences of a story? or a Cross-Word Puzzle or Acrostic based on books? or a Catholic Who's Who game based on identifying pictures on a bulletin board? or Matching Books and Authors?

Friday, February 24—*Assembly Program*.

Each grade should contribute one feature—a CBW song, a playlet, a forum on favorite books, a parade of book characters. There might be a film on books and libraries. Interest would be further stimulated by featuring an outside speaker; for instance, the public librarian, a local author, or an outstanding story-teller.

High Schools

Inside the Library. Each of the library's corners should be reserved for the setting up of a book display by the various classes. The freshmen, for instance, might choose hobbies as their theme. A miniature door, through which could be seen the legend "Welcome to Hobby House", could be the central element of this display. Handicraft articles—preferably those made by the students—should be displayed, together with books on stamps, coins, model airplanes and boats.

The sophomore class might feature a map of the world, with colored tapes flowing from each country and centering on Italy. The caption "All Roads Lead to Rome". Travel books and books on various countries might be arranged in a convenient bookrack, and an easy chair provided for the peruser.

The juniors might choose as their theme,

"Saints as Supermen", and center their collection on interestingly-written hagiography. In addition to the books and pamphlets featured, reproductions of various artists' conceptions of the saints should be included. These may be obtained at a reasonable price from your local museum, or may be cut from duplicate copies of the periodical collection and mounted.

A blown-up picture of St. Peter's, and the caption "Let's Visit the Vatican" could be the focal point of the senior class exhibit. There are many new books this year which treat of the Vatican, and these, plus earlier works in the library's collection, will make for a worth-while display.

A more ambitious project might be undertaken by the Sodality. By means of mounting board, colored paper, Mitten letters, etc., an effective, beautiful and yet simple dis-

THE CATHOLIC LIBRARY WORLD

play featuring The Madonna in Art could be set up in triptych fashion. The outer panels would contain representations of a Polish Madonna and the Mexican Lady of Guadalupe.

And, of course, the official CBW poster on the bulletin board, mounted against glittering metal-foil paper.

Outside the Library. In each classroom is a copy of the official CBW poster, and a group of book jackets reflecting the subject usually taught in that room. The English classes and the library assistants may sponsor a CBW assembly, including an original skit on the adventures of Ozzie, the bookworm, who is suffering from indigestion as a result of having eaten so many inferior books. His recovery is assured when he commences to nibble at the books compiled by the English department; a copy of this

list of books should be presented to each student at the end of the program. A costume parade is also their contribution.

The altar boys will feature a quiz program taken from Harshaw and MacBean's *What Book Is That?* (Macmillan, 1948). The material should first be adapted to fit the Catholic titles in the library. This useful book contains 15 groups of 10 questions each on books, and also 5 groups of 10 sketches on favorite books.

For Wednesday, February 22, the senior class may make arrangements for a book fair and story book ball in the gym, with dancing, booths featuring books on various subjects, refreshments, and a stand for selling worthwhile 25¢ - 35¢ books and Catholic pamphlets. The library student assistants may further this event by securing a speaker, probably a Catholic author, for the occasion.

College Libraries

Each day has been scheduled for some special event.

Sunday, February 19—Formal opening of Catholic Book Week, with a tea by the library staff for the faculty and students. The Bishop of the diocese might be the honored guest, and during the course of the tea, he might be persuaded to discuss briefly the importance of the CBW theme. Benediction in the college chapel would follow.

There should, of course, be exhibits in the library, including, in addition to the usual display, tables devoted to collections of Catholic literature in foreign languages and published in the United States, and another on rare Bibles.

Monday, February 20—Symposium by the Sodality on Catholic Book Week—its origin and purpose, the nature of Catholic literature, and a discussion of outstanding current Catholic authors.

Tuesday, February 21—Panel discussion on the Gallery of Living Catholic Authors, with the chairman of one of its numerous committees present as honored guest.

Wednesday, February 22 — Dramatization from Father George's *God's*

Underground, followed by a general discussion on the theme of this book led by one of the faculty or by a refugee student.

Thursday, February 23—Book reviews on recent selections of the Catholic Book Club and other books, together with distribution of literature about the Club and booklists.

Friday, February 24—The Holy Year in Books. A book talk on literature by the librarian, featuring the Vatican, Rome, Pope Pius XII, and kindred topics. Available films on the subject will also provide interest; if possible, feature movies made by a student or one of the faculty who have been in Rome. A booklist titled "The Holy Door to Holy Living", bound and featuring on the cover a reproduction of the inauguration of the Holy Year ceremonies should be available for distribution.

Saturday, February 25—Talk by a well-known Catholic author, to be followed by a reception and autographing party.

IDEAS FOR CATHOLIC BOOK WEEK

Parish Libraries

A steering committee containing representatives of all the parish organizations should be appointed by the pastor, who will assume the honorary chairmanship of this committee. The following are some of the means for publicizing this work.

Radio Station—Make arrangements with the manager of the local radio station for spot announcements calling attention to Catholic Book Week, and the observance to be held at the local parish libraries. If a special event is held on Sunday featuring a well-known Catholic author, arrange for part of this occasion to be broadcast. (For further suggestions, cf. "Radio Suggestions for Catholic Book Week, 1949", by William C. Smith in *THE CATHOLIC LIBRARY WORLD*, February, 1949.)

Motion Picture Theatre—Arrange for the display of the CBW poster. If possible, have a trailer made, featuring the poster and the local parish observances.

Local Bookstore—Arrange for display of official poster in window, together with a selection of new Catholic titles. Also arrange with the manager for a loan of books, new and old, to be displayed in the parish library throughout the week. If books are sold, percentage of sales may be made available for parish library funds.

Local Newspaper—Full publicity for your

program together with copies of lists of recommended books prepared by your committee. Arrange for reprints, which can be distributed to the parishioners after the Sunday Masses.

If a visiting author is to be a part of your book week observance, arrange with editor for interview and photographs.

Diocesan Newspaper—Give the editor complete information about your proposed activities and extend an invitation to other parishes to visit your library during the course of the week. A copy of your list of recommended books should also be made available to the editor. Urge the editor to have a special issue devoted to Catholic Book Week—or at least a special page.

Local Merchants—Here are store windows for displaying the official CBW poster.

Public Library—A companion, not a competitor. Make sure the librarian has a copy of the official poster, and a supply of any booklists you distribute. Urge a special display of the Catholic books in the public library's collection. Invite the librarian and his staff to your celebration.

Parish Library—Open house after the Masses on Sunday, the 19th, and after the afternoon celebration—in fact, open house throughout the entire week, if at all possible. Serve refreshments whenever possible.



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HELPFUL HINTS

A PAGE FOR ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LIBRARIANS

Sister Mary Fides, S.S.N.D., *Editor*
Dept. of Library Science, Catholic University,
Washington 17, D.C.

From widely scattered places have come requests for a score card to be used in the evaluation of books for children. In the hope that we might soon be able to develop one, on a single day recently, we asked a few persons whom we met casually and individually to write what each thought constituted a good book for a child. We have selected four of these answers to reproduce here. Two of them are by persons who both write and edit for children; one is by a person who has had library experience in an elementary school; the fourth, by one who has taught children in primary grades and is now preparing for a library career.

The first asks, "What should be the outstanding qualities in a book for children?" and her answer is: "First of all, a book for children should create in its reader a mood of enchantment. This mood may be of delight, of wonder, or of suspense. The delight may be created by the characterization or by the action of the story. The wonder may be the result of the presentation of either natural or supernatural phenomena. The suspense should be sustained but never allowed to produce overwhelming horror. Since the weaving of enchantment is a fine art, the book must be a work of art. Its creator should therefore possess not only technical skill but also wide and high vision. The field of the book may be narrow; but the effect of its reading must be the enlargement of the reader's mind and the uplifting of his spirit. For it is the task and the privilege of the artist to set the whole wide sky over the narrowest meadow".

Another says: "A story for children must have action without turmoil, characterization without caricature. It must be told with simplicity and honesty. It may be gay or it may sad, for laughter and tears are the ingredients of life, even for the young, and an understanding of life is the aim-all and end-all of literature. Beauty must be its theme; beauty of a world made beautiful by God; beauty of a human soul; beauty of kindness or justice or charity. A story for a child must be a milestone on a broad, bright highway, a marker that denotes his emotional, intellectual, and spiritual progress towards maturity.

According to the third writer; "A good book for children is one which, if for recreational purposes, appeals to the reader's imagination, contains some humor, broadens the experience, sustains high ideals of conduct, and, if at all possible, ends on a happy note; if for information, is accurate and current."

From the statement of the fourth person we are extracting one paragraph: "Quality is the word which provides a brief description of what ought to characterize the child's book. This invaluable essence must permeate the work in its entirety—from the literary standpoint of its contents to the artistic appeal of its cover. The story structure should progress to the rhythm of correct wording against a background of loveliness. The format should correspond in quality to the rest of the book. The text and illustrations should correlate each other. Bright colors appeal especially to the small child, but garishness should never result. Author and artist both are responsible for the conveyance of 'the good, the beautiful, and the true', by means of their creative abilities. Their work must inspire hope and joy—two chief characteristics of childhood. As the child develops physically, books can contribute to his moral, aesthetic, cultural, and intellectual growth. Books contain the seed of life, capable of transforming the child—even one handicapped by environment—into the substantialities of Goodness, Beauty, and Truth".

The writers of the above statements seem to have differing viewpoints. But a little study of these quotations shows that all are thinking of truth, of good taste, and of literary quality. Clarity is not so clearly mentioned but is implied and these four qualities are the standards that were set many years ago by writers on theories of book selection. Good taste implies good moral tone but does not include the moralizing of the older books for children. Truth includes not only that of established facts in books of information but faithfulness to the great universal truths of life in books of fantasy and fiction. All books need to be considered for literary merit, artistry should be sought. But at the present time, though we should keep high standards before us always, because of dearth of material in some fields we are forced to accept books which do not meet our expectations. Efforts are necessary to induce our better writers to work in these areas. Further quotations will be used later and more expressions of opinion will be welcome.

Catholic Book Week will be upon us when this reaches you. May its slogan bear fruit not only during the week but throughout the lives of today's children. We will be anxious to hear of your activities to try to bring about this result.

Thanks are due to several readers who have told us the use they have made of this page and of the activities of their student assistants. Let us hear from more of you.

TALKING SHOP

A PAGE FOR HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARIANS

Richard James Hurley, *Editor*
Dept. of Library Science,
University of Michigan

We had intended to devote part of our valuable space to an open letter to *Scholastic Magazine* concerning a booklist which highly irritated us, but we will reserve this until next time due to other items which seem more important. We do not mean to slight the compilation and criticism of booklists. In fact, a recent letter from Sister Avila, librarian of St. Joseph's Academy in St. Paul, stirred our reflections upon this subject. She was puzzled over the list of rejected titles in the SCHSL which we have sent to those requesting it. Why include *Adam of the Road*, *Junior Miss*, and *Our Hearts Were Young and Gay*, while omitting the *Patriot*, Kenneth Roberts' novels, and Merezhkovskii's work on Da Vinci? For Sister Avila's benefit we are quoting in a letter to her the exact references which led to our decision, but as she points out the list would be more valuable if the titles were annotated with specific statements as to reasons for their rejection. If some librarian will volunteer to issue such a list, I shall gladly turn over my notes, and if other librarians would offer to help analyze all possibly objectionable sections in the SCHSL we could do a really fine and constructive piece of work. It was hoped that the group which edited the Catholic Supplement to the SCHSL would do this and my list is based on such action which was never completed. We can finish the job with your help but it takes cooperation and I am already a one-hoss sinner with a two-hoss load. Sister Avila has an excellent suggestion—let us do something about it. And, let me say, I am asking the Executive Council to take measures to insure the continuance of the Catholic Supplement.

Another matter we are bringing to the attention of the Executive Council is a reorganization of the High School Section of CLA. There seems to me to be no continuity of effort, no projects which realize the bright sunshine of success. I am advocating a two-year term for the chairman who would be succeeded by a vice-president with a two-year term. With four years in office, a person could not only inaugurate a policy but carry it through. We would parallel the structure of the national organization. Also let us set up permanent committees such as Personnel, Activities, Nomination-Election, and Publicity. Chairmen of these committees would automatically leave office upon the taking over of a new chairman who, of course, might wish to continue them as committee members if they so desired. Our Section should no longer go along on a hand-to-mouth basis, with a single pep meeting a year to keep us going. What do you think about it?

A lot of miscellaneous items are in the mail

bag. We certainly do appreciate bouquets such as written by Father Schneider, librarian of St. James Catholic High School for Boys, Chester, Pa. If TALKING SHOP is stimulating and a great help, give the credit to those who contribute ideas to it—I am a kind of super-cargo on the ship. John Rowe, Educational Director of the *Encyclopedia Britannica* and a long-time friend of ours, reports that librarians are writing to him for the material *Britannica* has developed and as reported in our page. Enthusiasm breeds enthusiasm. We were happy to get a letter from Mrs. Beatrice S. Rossell, Director of School and Library Service for Field Enterprises, concerning revisions in *Childcraft* to meet certain Catholic criticism. Volumes 9-12 inclusive, for parents and teachers, were analyzed by a group of educators at Catholic University and elsewhere under the direction of our well-known Father Kortendick, head of its Department of Library Science. Sister Mary Fides was one of the group, as were Mother St. Lawrence of Rosemont College and Father Hellman, librarian of the Roger Bacon High School, Cincinnati. Sister Mary Charitas of Milwaukee checked the Bible stories. Father Kortendick reports that every suggestion for omission, addition, or revision has been followed and he recommends the set to every Catholic family. Let us say that *Childcraft* has a highly useful brochure entitled "Childcraft and American History".

Have you seen Sister M. Reparata's (our President's) article on Catholic Book Week in Bruce's "Between the Lines"? Read "For Promotional Power All Year" as a further stimulus to make 1950 more than just a mid-century mark. And have you read the article in the *Scholastic Teachers* for December 7, "Career Club—Librarian 1949 Model"? It is an excellent report of a group of high school students talking about the library profession, the need for more librarians, personality requirements, special fields, salaries, and opportunities for boys. Put this up on the bulletin board in your library. Make it the center of a discussion with your student library squad. It is good ammunition for Catholic Book Week. Another bit of literature you should have and read is Mary Peacock Douglas' *The Teacher-Librarian's Handbook* (second edition, A.L.A. 1949. 166p. \$2.75). The typography is a great improvement over the first edition and the book is thirty pages longer. Bibliographies and references have been brought up to date, a section has been added on films and filmstrips, and the new standards of the Southern Association have been quoted as well as the summary of *School Libraries for Today and Tomorrow*. The elementary school has also been given more prominence. In all, it is what Hyman Kaplan would call "high class".

AT YOUR SERVICE

A PAGE ON REFERENCE TOPICS

Sister M. Claudia, I.H.M., Editor
Marygrove College Library,
Detroit 21, Michigan

The Ivory Tower

Have you ever been asked for the meaning and origin of "ivory tower"? If so, perhaps you have done as others have before you: mentally classified the question as a purely routine one which could be answered from *Webster* or any reader's handbook and then discovered to your great chagrin that while everyone knows what the phrase symbolizes and uses it frequently in conversation and in print, a published source giving its origin and current meaning is not so easy to put one's finger on.

If you have had this experience, you will be interested in a passage in *Jacob's Night* (New York, Sheed & Ward, 1947, p.40). In describing the position of Georges Rouault among contemporary painters, Wallace Fowlie states that "Rouault has not escaped the accusation directed against almost all of the modern artists: that of not participating in the activity of his age, of remaining outside movements and tendencies, of not fulfilling his civic and social duties. The romantic's symbol for this isolation was the ivory tower, first used, I believe, by Alfred de Vigny. It marks, in the history of the modern artist, the first deliberate withdrawal from society, due to the indifference and coldness which the artist felt in the public of his day". The author then goes on to show the development of this feeling throughout the century. The aloofness of spirit, symbolized by the ivory tower, becomes in turn an attack on society, as in the case of Flaubert, and is followed by incommunicability as exemplified by the esoteric art of Mallarmé.

We like to think that a copy of this passage sent to the Merriam Company is responsible for the following entry in the 1949 edition of *Webster's New Collegiate Dictionary*: "ivory tower—A retreat; a secluded place for meditation;—figuratively as, an ivory tower of aloofness from life."

Can anyone give us any additional references for the origin and meaning of this phrase?

National Bibliographies

The author list of works currently cataloged by the Library of Congress and by other American libraries participating in the cooperative cataloging program and published by the Library of Congress since January 1947 under the title of *Cumulative Catalog*, is now to be supplemented by a subject list. It will be issued on an experimental basis to see if there is enough demand to make possible its continued publication. For details

regarding scope, frequency, format, and price write for the *Prospectus* now available from the Library of Congress.

A reprint of the British Museum *Catalogue of Printed Books Supplement, 1900-1905*, is being issued under the auspices of the Association of Research Libraries with the permission of the trustees of the British Museum. The Supplement, complete in 10 volumes, lists all the titles acquired by the British Museum, 1882-1899 inclusive. Format, paper, and binding will match the Edwards Reprint of the main set of the *Catalogue*. The 10 volumes will be available on or before April 1, 1950.

Reprint of Pauly-Wissowa

Pauly's Realenzyklopaedie der klassischen Altertumswissenschaft, newly edited by Professor Georg Wissowa and others, has long been out of print. The publisher, however, is now in the process of reprinting the set. All volumes will be available separately; this includes the new volumes which will complete the work as well as those that are to be reprinted. Those who have incomplete sets will probably be glad to take advantage of this reprint edition.

Foreign Periodicals

Hochland (Munich and Olten), one of the foremost Catholic periodicals in Germany, is now available in a Swiss edition. Volume 19 (1921-22) of this title has an article to which we constantly find reference and which we should like to see translated into English: E. Krebs, "Vom Priestertum der Frau".

A good many people seem to have missed the excellent commemorative issue of *La vie spirituelle* (janvier 1948), published on the twenty-fifth anniversary of the death of Dom Marmion. It includes, among others, studies by Dom Beauduin, Dom Rousseau, Fathers Boularand, S.J., and Philipon, O.P., as well as the hitherto unpublished text of "Le Christ idéal du prêtre".

A Note for Your Reference File

The Catholic Writers Guild of America announces that the following will receive awards for producing the best Catholic books of the past year: Best fiction, *The Edge of Doom*, by Leo Brady (Dutton); best non-fiction, *The Seven Storey Mountain*, by Thomas Merton (Harcourt); best religious book, *Transformation in Christ*, by Dietrich von Hildebrand (Longmans).



CONTACT FOR CATALOGERS

A CLEARING-HOUSE PAGE FOR CATHOLIC CATALOGERS

Rev. Oliver L. Kapsner, O.S.B., Editor
St. John's Abbey Library,
Collegeville, Minnesota

Libraries Turn to Vatican Code

During a recent ten-week tour through Latin American countries,¹ Lucille M. Morsch, chief of the Library of Congress Descriptive Cataloging Division, studied conditions in 99 Latin American libraries. While she found librarianship as a whole still in a pioneer state, she also observed that the best thing the libraries do is their cataloging. The *Vatican Rules* usually constitute the authority guiding catalogers in their work.

The early preparation of a Spanish version² of the *Vatican Norme* is thus proving a boon to the Latin American countries, where, it may be recalled, libraries once flourished in the 17th and 18th centuries. A period of stagnation set in, however, and endured throughout the 19th century. The present century, we are happy to report, is witnessing a revival in libraries and librarianship. The fact that the collections of books are largely Catholic in content, and Spanish, Portuguese, and Latin according to language, no doubt facilitates use of the Vatican rules.

It is worth noting that other recent cataloging codes are based on the *Vatican Rules*, as, for example, the code introduced for the libraries in Belgium,³ and the more particularized one drawn up for use by the various branches of the Franciscan Order.⁴ Add to these the new English translation,⁵ and we see the *Vatican Norme*, which were formed according to Library of Congress practice, showing the way for international unification of cataloging rules.

While the Vatican rules in general agree with the A.L.A. rules and Library of Congress practice, they differ in the manner of handling Catholic liturgical books and in the forming of subject headings in religion and theology, where adherence to traditional Catholic terminology is advocated.

The Classification Décimale

Sister Mary Clare, S.N.D., operating the Mary-Patrick-Martin Workshop in Cleveland, inquires about a somewhat overlooked Catholic classification outline.

"May I ask why you took no cognizance [in *Catholic Subject Headings*] of the *Fides Religion, Theologie, Droit Canonique, Classe 2 et Division 348 de la Classification Decimale*?"

"In my workshop I have been using this book prepared by Paul-Aimé Martin, C.S.C., Directeur

de 'Mes Fiches' and like it very much—except that it is in French.

"If you would have time to give me your evaluation of Father Martin's work, I would appreciate it very much."

It was good news to hear from someone using Father Martin's Catholic revision of the *Classification Décimale*.⁶ Through private correspondence it was difficult to learn whether his work was being used in the U.S., by whom, and with what results.

Surely, others who have given Father Martin's schedules a try won't mind sharing their experience through the medium of this column.

Friends in Need and Deed

"The request for a copy of Lynn on the December catalogers' page of THE CATHOLIC LIBRARY WORLD prompts us to ask your help in acquiring a 1928 edition of the *LC Classification G Schedule*, and the 6th edition of the *LC Auxiliary List of Subject Subdivisions*. We will appreciate it very much if you will print a request for us."

Anyone in a position to supply this bill should contact Olga M. Peterson, Librarian, University of St. Thomas, 3812 Montrose Boulevard, Houston 6, Texas.

Incidentally, the December request referred to above brought a prompt and generous response, as the cataloger in need received three copies of Lynn in quick order. "Such helpfulness is indeed appreciated, and makes one aware of the close contact among Catholic librarians", writes the overjoyed recipient.

1. *Library Journal*, Nov. 15, 1949, p. 1732.

2. *Normas para catalogacion de impresos edicion española*. Ciudad del Vaticano, Biblioteca Apostolica Vaticana, 1940.

3. *Règles catalographiques à l'usage des bibliothèques de Belgique*. Bruxelles, 1933.

4. *Normas pro bibliographia franciscana conficienda*. Ad Claras Aquas, Ex typographia Collegii S. Bonaventurae, 1935.

5. Vatican Library. *Rules for the Catalog of Printed Books*; tr. from the 2d Italian edition. Chicago, Ill., A. L. A., 1948.

6. Martin, Paul Aime. *Religion, theologie, droit canonique; classe 2 et division 348 de la Classification decimale*; revues et completees d'apres la theologie catholique. Augmentees d'une table alphabetique et de references a la Somme de Saint Thomas. 118p. Montreal, "Mes Fiches", 1938.



THE GUIDE POST

A PAGE FOR PARISH LIBRARIANS

Lucy Murphy, Editor
Buffalo Public Library,
Buffalo, New York

"Of the making many books there is no end" runs the classical line, a version of a theme so old that we wonder at times, whether the old Egyptians grumbled at undue consumption of papyrus. The Greeks, on the other hand, advised against "nothing too much". Today, librarians are shocked to horror on seeing "many books" housed in dark damp rooms, or in rooms too hot, too cold, too humid, or too dry. Tobacco smoke and vapor darkens and hastens decay of leather. Dampness develops mildew and ruin. Constant bright sunlight dries the life out of all books exposed to its rays. Book-worms, which eat paste and glue and bore holes in boards and paper, never thrive in well-ventilated clean rooms. Few parish librarians are in a position to be able to control these factors. There are, however, factors they can control. I shall point out a few.

February is an excellent month to begin the revamping of every parish library. The very first thing to do is go through the collection and consider the physical condition of the books. Many parish libraries overflow with books—old, warped, and dust-laden—that have outlived their usefulness. Remove from the shelves those that are shabby and dogeared—no one is ever attached to a library by dirty ragged books, no matter how good the contents. Moreover, books which have been kept in good repair will command greater respect and the parishioners will treat them more carefully than they do old and torn copies.

After weeding out the collection, sort the books into three classes: those to be discarded, those to go to the bindery, and those which are to be mended. To do this part of the work accurately requires experienced hands, for mending and repair of books depends upon a certain knowledge of the way books are made; not all books are made alike. Hence, a library is no place for the hands of an apprentice unless he is closely supervised. The best mending can be done only when an acquaintance with the make-up of a book has been acquired through a study of various processes of binding. *The Care and Repair of Books*, by Harry H. Lydenberg and John Archer, is a tool with which every one interested in the work of book preservation should be familiar.

Discard all water-soaked books and those damaged by fire, as well as those books with warped covers, or missing pages, or otherwise swollen, torn, and stained beyond repair. If, however, you can duplicate the missing page and the book is otherwise in good condition, insert the page. This may be done by having a photostat copy made of the missing page, or by having one of the staff type the page as found in a perfect copy. In this event, be sure to leave sufficient space for margins.

When to bind and when to mend is ever a puzzling question and the decision must be made upon careful examination of every book, especially books in constant circulation. No library can afford to circulate shabby, soiled, or ragged books, because readers have a right to expect that the library's books shall be in good condition for use. Also from an economic standpoint a book's usefulness or its life is shortened by neglect to bind at first sign of need.

The importance of careful mending cannot be overestimated. Flexibility is the keynote of mending; careful watch must be maintained in every step of the process to ensure this quality. A book can be ruined either by over-mending or by indifferent and slipshod methods. Many books, for example, are a sight to behold, because they have been mended with Scotch tape. There is so much of this unsightly work being done in parish libraries. Stop it! To mend loose leaves and torn margins, it is wise to use a good quality of soft ungummed transparent paper. Gummed papers crack, discolor with age, and become so stiff that they tear the pages on which they have been used. Japanese tissue and ungummed onion skin are best for tears that extend into the printing or for tears that have been cut or with no edge. Matched material, that is paper of the same weight and color, should be used to replace corners that are lopped off.

Loose leaves may be inserted into the book by running a little white paste (not mucilage) along the very edges of the inside of the loose page and then slipping the leaf into place. Press with a bone folder, and close book for twenty-four hours. When dry, the edge may be trimmed with scissors. Rumped pages can be prevented by reinforcing the sheets with a thin coating of white paste, the thinner the better. A damp piece of cheesecloth rubbed over the page will do the work equally well. In case the pages of the dictionary or the encyclopedia are too far gone for this treatment, restore them by mounting on thin white chiffon organdie. Let the pages dry over night.

The removal of labels calls for the patience of a Job, for like the poor they are always with us. Labels may be removed with little or no trouble, and without leaving scars on the spine of the book, by applying a water soaked piece of blotting paper which has been cut to the size of the labels to be removed.

Soiled covers may be cleaned by using a suede eraser on those made of coarse cloth. For covers with a glossy surface, use a gelezene solution—three parts hot water to one part of gelezene for light colored book covers; substitute cold water in
(Continued on Page 149)

PATIENT'S PAUSE

A PAGE FOR HOSPITAL LIBRARIANS

Margaret L. Frawley, *Editor*
Chairman, Hospital Library Service,
Washington, D. C., Unit

Conference Program

Plans are well under way for the 1950 Catholic Library Association's Convention to be held in Washington, April 10-14, 1950.

The Hospital Library Section will probably hold its session at the Georgetown University Medical Center. This will afford the visitors a close view of the fine, modern, new Georgetown University Hospital.

The program is still in a formative stage. Father Francis Przbylski, chaplain at St. Mary's Hospital, Wausau, Wisconsin, will be one of the principal speakers on "Christotherapy". It is expected to have a representative of the National Council of Catholic Nurses to address our group.

We invite suggestions for the program and request that you let us know what you would like to hear or discuss at the Hospital session.

* * *

We welcome to the Hospital Library Page—St. Elizabeth Hospital, Appleton, Wisconsin. Sister M. Georgian gives us the following picture of its patients' library.

St. Elizabeth Hospital

Here at St. Elizabeth's we have a 200-bed hospital conducted by the Sisters of the Franciscan Order of St. Louis, Missouri. As the only hospital in the city, we have a complete general hospital with surgical, medical, obstetrical, and pediatric services.

I have been connected with the patients' library for the past several years, and I find the work encouraging as well as interesting. It has been our aim to provide our patients with the finest and best reading material possible.

We have in our library over a thousand books, consisting of good biographies, novels, religious books, fiction, Western and mystery stories, be-

sides numerous popular Catholic magazines such as *Extension*, *The Sign*, *Sacred Heart Messenger*, *Catholic Digest*, *St. Anthony's Messenger*, *Ave Maria*, *Franciscan Herald*, *The Little Flower*, and *The Scapular*, as well as most of the leading Catholic newspapers. We also carry scrapbooks made and donated by the Catholic school children of the city, and selected comics for the children in the pediatric department.

Every patient in the hospital is visited twice a week. Our library cart, which holds a hundred books and the necessary library supplies, is wheeled to the bedside of each individual patient, allowing them to make their own selection of reading matter. Here I might add that we usually have a greater call for good fiction and popular magazines. Patients may select as much reading material as they desire. Their names are secured on the usual library card. They are instructed to leave all books at the admittance desk on their dismissal from the hospital.

In the interest of our library, I have tried to make each visit a social as well as a personal call of from three to five minutes, depending upon the condition of the patient. By a few cheery words we endeavor to give pleasure and encouragement which will aid in the restoration of good health.

I have found the patients very appreciative of this service, and many who are with us for a long time have told me how eagerly they look forward to a visit from our "walking library" as they call it.

Our chaplain and doctors, too, have highly commended our work along this line and confirmed the fact that it not only gives pleasure and activity to the patient, but likewise helps to divert his mind from suffering as well as to pass the time pleasantly.

SISTER MARY GEORGIAN, O.S.F.
St. Elizabeth Hospital, Appleton, Wis.

GUIDE POST (continued)

the above solution for red, dark blue, green, and black covers. Stand books upright to dry.

The inside of a book requires another technique, and a careful study of book paper should be undertaken for different papers require different treatment. The spongy feather-weight paper on which most of the fiction is printed is very difficult to clean. However, a gentle rubbing with art gum or a sponge will remove pencil marks. Powered pumice will do the work on clay-coated papers. Mud stains may be removed with a damp cloth rung from warm or tepid water. Be careful not to wet the paper too much. An ink eradicator will take out ink spots. India inks do

not yield to chemical cleaners. If the book is badly soiled, discard it. Dust, of course, is not removed by clapping books together, but by application of a damp cloth or a vacuum cleaner. There are vacuum cleaners on the market specially adapted for this purpose.

Shelves should not be arranged either too tightly or too loosely. If too tightly arranged, the sides of the books will rub each other and the strain of removal from the shelf will be excessive. If too loosely arranged, the leaves of the books may admit dust, damp and mildew, and the entire book will thus lack the support necessary to reasonably protect it from the constantly-changing atmospheric conditions.

NEWS AND NOTES

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

The Mid-Winter Meeting of the Executive Council was both interesting and provocative. It was held in Suite 814 of the Edgewater Beach Hotel on Friday, January 27, from 10:30 A. M., to 5:00 P. M. All the members of the Council were in attendance, except Brother David Martin, C.S.C., and Miss Lucy Murphy. Brother David asked that Monsignor Koenig be his proxy, and this appointment was made by Sister Reparata, O.P., President. Miss Lucy Murphy, unable to attend, sent a long letter in which she expressed her viewpoint and her vote on many of the measures on the agenda.

The Council was concerned with the finances of the Association, as point number one on the agenda. Both the audited report for the period July 1, 1948, to June 30, 1949, and the budget proposed for the fiscal year beginning on July 1, 1950, were subjects of serious investigation by the Council members. The audited report showed a strict adherence to budgetary allotment and a healthy financial condition in the affairs of the Association. Parallel to the 1948-49 budget and actual spending were the figures proposed in the 1949-50 budget and spending, as of December 30, 1949. Comparing favorably with these figures were the estimates for receipts and recommendations for budgetary expenditures in the next fiscal year. After preliminary clarification and questionings, both these reports were unanimously accepted by the members of the Executive Council.

The Council tabled consideration of *The Catholic Periodical Index* until the afternoon session at which the Very Reverend Harry Koenig, new Committee Chairman, was to be present. Attention was centered, in turn, on the details of the National Convention scheduled for Washington, D.C., in Easter week, the 1950 observance of Catholic Book Week, and other items either suggested by the membership or by the members of the Executive Council for consideration at the Mid-Winter Meeting. Among these were the nominations and elections procedures,

a Catholic Library Association Activities Committee, the three Catholic Supplements, new Units, membership procedures, censorship, and the proposed Catholic Library Association Jubilee Year Tour.

Most of the details of the Washington meeting will be treated in another number of *THE CATHOLIC LIBRARY WORLD*. The Nominations Committee will be appointed previous to the Washington meeting, so that the Executive Council can then approve the appointment and they may proceed with the nominations, the printing of ballots, and distribution to the membership in accordance with constitutional requirements. Catholic Book Week, 1949, was a splendid success, but a financial loss to the Association. To obviate any hazards in 1950, various helpful suggestions were advanced by the members of the Council. This year's observance, due to the work of Dom Bernard Theall and his associates, seems to be off to a very good start. The main hope of the Council is, that as time permits a wider knowledge of the observance, more economical use can be made of the materials. To last year's observance a little less than three thousand contributed. To make the project profitable there must be at least a participation by five thousand. Prosperity and publicity can easily assure this number of participants.

Work on the three Catholic Supplements was discussed. Sister Melania Grace, Chairman of the Committee on the *Catholic Supplement to the Shaw List*, has almost completed her first two-year supplementary volume. Her position of Chairman was re-approved by the Council. So, too, was the chairmanship of Sister Fides, S.S.N.D., of the Committee on the *Supplement to the Children's Catalog*. The High School Supplement, voted at the Executive Council meeting in Mid-Winter of 1949, has not been implemented. Accordingly the editorship of this publication has been offered to the Department of Librarianship of Marywood College, Scranton, Pa., pending official approval from the superiors there. In the case of the latter two of these projects, the President was empowered to approach the

NEWS AND NOTES

H. W. Wilson Company concerning the possibilities of royalties to the Association for these Association projects.

Petitions for recognition were received from Units created at Nashville, Tenn., and Richmond, Va. Before voting on their admission as Units, members of the Council stressed the need today of apprising newly formed Units of the essential library character of C.L.A. Units. This embraces two considerations. First, the membership should include C.L.A. members. Only Association members may vote and be elected to office. Constant and continued attention should be directed to swelling the Association's membership in these groups. Secondly, the aims and directives of the Units should be library matters, they should not be considered educational conferences. In pursuance of these directives the Council moved that the article by Brother Thomas, on Units and their formation, printed in the 1947 number of the *Handbook*, be revised and brought up-to-date for inclusion in the 1950 *Handbook* number of THE CATHOLIC LIBRARY WORLD. Both the Nashville and the Richmond Units received unanimous approval.

The report on membership procedures was incomplete at the time of the meeting. Miss Helene Rogers, Chairman of the Membership Committee, had prepared elaborate plans which were presented to the President and to the Executive Secretary after the Council meeting. Under the subject of membership two items were discussed. The first of these was subscription through agencies. Because of the time consumed, the correspondence necessary, but particularly because of the financial loss on these subscriptions, the Council voted unanimously that memberships in future will not be accepted through agencies. The second item was a proposal that, as in the case of institutional memberships, part of the fee be returned to the unit for every three or five dollar membership. This was advanced as a means of stimulating membership and obviating the need of collecting Unit dues. After discussion it was decided that this would be too much of a financial loss to the Association. The suggestion was rejected.

The question of censorship and particularly the Blanshard volume on *American*

Freedom and Catholic Power were both discussed at length. Miss Murphy's telling comments synthesized the mind of the Council. In the matter of censorship, the Council feels that, as priests and laymen, the Association would not be in a position to speak. In reference to the Blanshard book, called by the American Library Association's Religious Book Committee one of the outstanding religious books of the year, the Council felt that the general strictures passed by the public were better than a special denunciation by the Association, which might draw more attention to a book whose value is so ephemeral.

The Holy Year Tour plans, to be prepared by an agency and delivered in October, were not available until early in January. In the face of this tardy preparation and because of the various diocesan projects in this field, the Council felt that the project could not be considered for presentation to the membership at this late date.

In the afternoon session the matter of *The Catholic Periodical Index* was brought before the Council. A great deal of time was taken and a great deal of territory was covered in the discussions. One of the most important points taken was the difficulty inherent in dependence on one man to do the work of the *Index*. Mr. Leavey has been empowered to enlist the services of an indexer to assist him and Miss Neale in the work of the editorship. So far he has been unable to get a satisfactory person. The possibilities of the H. W. Wilson Company taking the *Index* on three bases were discussed and the Chairman of the Committee on the C.P.I. was instructed to find out from the Wilson Company whether it is possible to have them undertake the entire project, and on what grounds. Secondly, he is to inquire as to partial responsibility, the Wilson Company directing the finances and printing, as well as promotion and subscriptions, with the C.L.A. directing the policy of the project. The third type of control into which he is to inquire is the possibility that the Wilson Company will undertake merely the printing of the *Index*. It is hoped that the Committee can give a full report of these possibilities at the Easter national meeting in Washington.

(Continued on Page 156)

THE CATHOLIC LIBRARY WORLD

RECEIPTS and DISBURSEMENTS of the CATHOLIC PERIODICAL INDEX

JOSEPH T. A. DILLON ASSOCIATES

CERTIFIED PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS

43 CEDAR STREET
NEW YORK 5, N. Y.

TO: The Executive Council
of the Catholic Library Association
P.O. Box 25, Kingsbridge Station
New York 63, N. Y.

We have made an examination of the attached Statement of receipts and disbursements (and related Exhibits I and II) of The Catholic Library Association and The

CATHOLIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

BALANCE, July 1, 1948

On Deposit—Checking Accounts	\$ 5,190.77	
On Deposit—Cumulative Fund Vol. IV		
On Deposit— " Interest Earned		
On Hand	53.33	
TOTALS		\$ 5,244.10

Loans: from Catholic Library Association
to *Catholic Periodical Index*

RECEIPTS:

Memberships

Personal	\$ 2,314.00	
Constituent	1,371.49	
Institutional	5,616.66	
Contributing	100.00	
Sustaining	400.00	
TOTALS		9,802.15

Subscriptions:

Volume III, 1930-1933
Volume VI, 1939-1943
Volumes VII to XII inclusive
Volume XIII, 1949-1950

TOTALS

Sales:

Advertising	\$ 2,555.24	
Reprints	87.20	
Single Copies— <i>Handbook</i>	28.00	
— <i>Catholic Library World</i>	185.24	
—Other Publications	95.75	
TOTALS		2,951.43

Other:

Book Week	\$ 1,939.95	
23rd Conference	540.50	
Subscriptions—Non-members C.L.W.	14.50	
Royalties (<i>Books for Catholic Colleges</i>) ..	155.55	
Gifts	2.25	
Miscellaneous, to be Refunded	11.00	
TOTALS		2,663.75

TOTAL CASH TO BE ACCOUNTED FOR:

2,663.75
\$20,661.43

FINANCIAL REPORT

CATHOLIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION and JULY 1, 1948 to JUNE 30, 1949

Catholic Periodical Index for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1949. In connection with the examination, all recorded receipts were checked against membership and other records and traced to deposit in bank accounts; all disbursements were compared with cancelled checks and supporting invoices or vouchers.

In our opinion, the attached Statement of receipts and disbursements (and related Exhibits I and II) fairly presents the operations of The Catholic Library Association and *The Catholic Periodical Index* for the fiscal year indicated therein.

Respectfully submitted,
JOSEPH T. A. DILLON

December 28, 1949

CATHOLIC PERIODICAL INDEX

TOTAL INCOME

\$ 1,187.01		\$ 6,377.78	
5,000.00		5,000.00	
111.17		111.17	
9.85		63.18	
	\$ 6,308.03		\$11,552.13
	1,500.00		1,500.00
		\$ 2,314.00	
		1,371.49	
		5,616.66	
		100.00	
		400.00	
			9,802.15
\$ 122.25		\$ 122.25	
203.75		203.75	
12,644.46		12,644.46	
240.25		240.25	
	13,210.71		13,210.71
		\$ 2,555.24	
		87.20	
		28.00	
		185.24	
		95.75	
			2,951.43
		\$ 1,939.95	
		540.50	
		14.50	
		155.55	
		2.25	
		11.00	
			2,663.75
	\$21,018.74		\$41,680.17

THE CATHOLIC LIBRARY WORLD

CATHOLIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

DISBURSEMENTS

Salaries:

Editorial Salaries	\$ 4,082.66
Part-time assistants	694.52

TOTAL

\$ 4,777.38

Loans: from Catholic Library Association
to *Catholic Periodical Index*

1,500.00

Printing and Type Expenses:

<i>Catholic Library World</i>	\$ 3,670.65
<i>Handbook</i>	1,033.50
Reprints	155.39
<i>Catholic Periodical Index</i> Linotyping	
Lead purchases	300.82

TOTAL

5,160.36

Selling Expenses:

Advertising Commissions	\$ 599.45
Refunds	51.60
Other Publications	

TOTAL

651.05

Office and General Expenses:

Letter Service, Name Plates, Mailing <i>C.L.W.</i>	\$ 307.72
Labels, Postage, Stamping and Mailing <i>C.P.I.</i> Telephone and telegraph	333.20
Postage and express	204.00
Rental, Post Office Box	16.00
Auditors	300.00
Office Maintenance and Equipment	1,044.13
Stationery and Printing	561.40
Insurance Premiums	
Dues: American Library Association	25.00
Council of National Library Associations	10.00
Other Office and General Expenses	201.49

TOTAL

3,002.94

Other:

Book Week	\$ 2,478.31
22nd Conference	105.99
23rd Conference	105.90
Mid-Winter Meeting	200.00

TOTAL

2,890.20

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS:

\$17,981.93

CASH BALANCES, June 30, 1949:

On Deposit, Checking Accounts	\$ 2,669.22
On Deposit, For Printing Cumulative Vol. IV On Hand and In Transit	10.28

TOTAL

2,679.50

TOTAL CASH ACCOUNTED FOR:

\$20,661.43

FINANCIAL REPORT

CATHOLIC PERIODICAL INDEX

TOTAL DISBURSEMENTS

\$ 4,244.42
541.73

\$ 4,786.15

\$ 8,327.28
1,236.25

\$ 9,563.53

1,500.00

4,285.27
2,802.40
1,143.24

8,230.91

\$ 3,670.65
1,033.50
155.39
4,285.27
2,802.40
1,444.06

13,391.27

234.28

234.28

\$ 599.45
51.60
234.28

885.33

418.60
175.67

800.00
499.14
50.00

149.14

2,042.55

\$ 307.72
418.60
508.87
204.00
16.00
300.00
1,844.13
1,010.54
50.00
25.00
10.00
350.63

5,045.49

\$ 2,478.31
105.99
105.90
200.00

2,890.20

\$15,293.89

\$33,275.82

\$ 520.33
5,111.17
93.95

5,724.85

\$21,018.74

\$ 3,189.55
5,111.17
103.63

8,404.35

\$41,680.17

THE CATHOLIC LIBRARY WORLD

(Continued from Page 151)

The Council was greatly aided in its deliberations by the 22-page Interim Report of the Executive Secretary. Among other items that were treated were the matter of Catholic Library Association participation in the Brotherhood activities of the National Conference of Christians and Jews, the question of national headquarters, and of Incorporation in the State of New York.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:10 P.M.

UNITS

Mid-South Conference

The ninth annual meeting of the Mid-South Conference of the Catholic Library Association was held at Ursuline College, Louisville, on December 9, 1949. Holy Mass was celebrated at 8:30 in the college chapel by the Right Rev. Felix N. Pitt, secretary of the Catholic School Board of Louisville. Following registration, sessions were held in Brescia Hall of the college. Thirty-seven members attended.

Sister James Ellen, S.C.N., Conference chairman, presided at the opening session, at which Monsignor Pitt gave the invocation. In the absence of Sister George Marie, dean of the college, Sister Mary Louis, U.S.H., welcomed the delegates. A telegram of good wishes was received from Sister M. Roberta, O.P., of Nashville. Monsignor Pitt addressed the group on "The Apostolate of the Library", the general theme of the day's talks. He spoke of the essential place of the library in the plans of the Catholic educator.

Then followed a panel discussion on the library in the school and community, stressing the apostolic nature of its work. Dr. William FitzGerald, director of the Library School, Peabody College, Nashville, presided. As first speaker, Sister Mary Louis, head of the English department at Ursuline College, discussed the apostolate of the college library, emphasizing two points: arousing students to an awareness of the function of communication, especially in the power of the poets; and instilling the idea that education begins, not ends, at college. Brother Thomas More, C.F.X., of St. Xavier High

School, Louisville, discussed some of the reasons that students do not use the library after they have left school: (1) too many teachers have the idea that only the English teacher should train students for concentrated library work, and hence the habit of going is not formed; (2) students are not made acquainted with library resources, and do not turn to them for the answers to present problems, interracial, labor, and ethical.

Mrs. A. L. Haynes, president of the Louisville chapter of the Queen's Daughters, emphasized early childhood training in appreciation of books, to take advantage of the idealism of children. Mother Goose rhymes have an indispensable place in the children's background. Mrs. Marion Stoner, librarian of the Highland Branch Library, Louisville, asked that the public libraries be helped in their efforts to give efficient service by: (1) being given a knowledge of the school curriculum in their particular district; (2) being given book lists (and possible substitutions); (3) having teachers bring classes to the library. She also gave out copies of a new pamphlet listing the services of the Louisville Free Public Library — extension courses, lending services of films, records, and pictures, programs broadcast to schools requesting them, and the new radio station to be opened soon. Miss Mary Bisig, president of the Louisville Council of Catholic Nurses, spoke on the function of bibliography, and the opportunities for its use as an apostolate in hospitals.

The meeting was adjourned for luncheon in the college cafeteria. The principal speaker was Mr. Clarence R. Graham, librarian of the Louisville Free Public Library, and president-elect of the American Library Association. He spoke on the broadening concept of the function of the library as a communications center, citing the work of the city library in presenting college extension courses at the various branches, and now opening the first library radio station in the world. Mr. Graham, officers of the units and of the Conference, and other honor guests were introduced by Sister Mary Canisius, S.C.N., director of the Library Science department of Nazareth College, Louisville.

Sister James Ellen presided at the afternoon session on "Meeting the Challenges of Our Times". Talks were given by the chair-

NEWS AND NOTES

men of the three units comprising the Conference, telling of what each unit is doing to further the library apostolate.

The annual business meeting was called to order at 4:15 by Sister James Ellen. It was moved that the reading of the minutes be omitted. The treasurer's report was read and approved. The resolutions committee reported. The elections committee, under the chairmanship of Brother Leonard Francis, C.F.X., librarian of St. Xavier High School, Louisville, reported as follows: Chairman, Dr. William FitzGerald, of Peabody College, Nashville; Vice-Chairman, Sister Mary Helen, S.C.N., now studying at the Catholic University; Secretary-Treasurer, Sister M. Emmanuel, S.L., librarian, Loretto High School, Louisville.

SISTER M. EMMANUEL, S.L.,

Secretary

Maryland Unit

The Maryland Unit will mark the tenth annual observance of Catholic Book Week by sponsoring a Book Mart at Calvert Hall Auditorium, Baltimore, on February 23 and 24, from 4:00 to 11:00 p.m. The purpose of the Mart is to bring Catholic thought and reading to the public. Arrangements have been made with the Newman Bookshop, Westminster, Maryland, for displays of the latest and best books on Catholic thought and culture. Two lectures have also been scheduled. On the evening of February 23, Dr. Frank Ayd, Perry Point Hospital, Perry Point, Maryland, will speak on "Catholic Reading and Mental Hygiene". The Very Reverend Francis X. Talbot, S.J., president of Loyola College, Baltimore, will deliver the second lecture on February 24. Father Talbot's topic will be the theme for Catholic Book Week, "Holy Reading Maketh the Whole Man". The Book Week Committee is under the direction of the Reverend William M. Davish, S.J., Loyola College, Miss Anne M. Finnan, Loyola College, and Miss Anna Unsoeld, Enoch Pratt Free Library. Miss Finnan is chairman of the Committee.

Tentative plans for Catholic Book Week activities were made at the Winter meeting of the Unit held at Seton High School, Baltimore, on Saturday, December 10, 1949, with Sister Mary David, S.S.N.D., chairman,

presiding. Other business transacted included the appointment of Sister Mary Concessa, S.S.N.D., Institute of Notre Dame, Baltimore, as chairman of a nominating committee for the election of new officers. The committee will consist of Sister Concessa, Mrs. Angeline Smith, St. Elizabeth's Home, Baltimore, and Miss Anna Unsoeld, Enoch Pratt Free Library. Mr. Laurence A. Leavey, Executive Secretary of the Association, spoke to the group on the purpose and activities of the Catholic Library Association. A discussion followed Mr. Leavey's address.

MARY ROSE,

Secretary

WAGNER PAPERS TO GEORGETOWN UNIVERSITY

The private and public papers of former Senator Robert F. Wagner, sponsor of the Wagner Labor Relations Act, were presented recently to Georgetown University. Some 300 vertical files and 30 bound volumes of manuscripts and correspondence, as well as memoranda and reports, will be cataloged, making available to scholars a major source for research in the field of labor economics.

Mr. Robert F. Wagner, Jr., transmitted the papers to the Very Reverend Hunter Guthrie, S.J., President of the University, in a formal ceremony in Georgetown's Gaston Hall on October 23rd, at which Senator Joseph C. O'Mahoney presided.

LIBRARY OF CONGRESS CANCELS AWARDS

The Librarian of Congress, Luther H. Evans, announces that in compliance with a recommendation of the Joint Committee of Congress on the Library, unanimously adopted on Friday, August 19, the Library is cancelling all arrangements for the giving of prizes and the making of awards.

The awards which, in the past the Library has made, and which will not be made in the future, are the Elizabeth Sprague Coolidge Medal for "eminent services to chamber music," the Bollingen Prize in Poetry, and three awards made in connection with the annual national exhibition of prints.

BOOK NOTES

A CATHOLIC BOOK LIST FOR LENT, 1950¹

Compiled By REVEREND JAMES M. KELLER, M.M.
Founder and Director of The Christophers

INTRODUCTION

It is the goal of the Christophers to persuade the millions that with God's grace we can renew the face of the earth. Truly, if each tiny segment of humanity—the individual—unites with each other tiny segment, an irresistible movement will sweep the globe. If each individual accepts his own mission as a Christ-bearer—a Christopher—"You Can Change the World".

In no field is this individual responsibility of such paramount importance as in the communication of ideas. The tremendous influence of the printed word is so casually accepted that we tend to overlook its importance in the work of spreading the Word of God.

This Lenten list contains books of a wide and varied appeal—some for those advanced in the spiritual life, others for the Catholic often bewildered by the erudition of the spiritual writing of today.

This then is a group of books for all Catholics. Now more than ever it is in the world of ideas that the struggle between Good and Evil is being waged. Books provide a positive weapon in that conflict. Let us make full use of them.

A PROCESSION OF SAINTS, by James Brodrick, S.J. Longmans, Green. 198p. \$3.

Studies of twelve little-known, English and Irish saints, and one about a fascinating woman who has been beatified—Mère Marie of the Incarnation—all told with a dry wit and in a manner that is humanly touching.

STORIES OF OUR CENTURY, ed. by John Brunini and Francis Connolly. Lippincott. 317p. \$3.

Short stories designed by the editors "to satisfy those who have found through experience that

1. Reprinted through the courtesy of the Religious Book Publishers.

literary genius, enriched, enlarged and elevated by a Christian habit of mind, provides a specially rewarding pleasure".

THE VATICAN—BEHIND THE SCENES IN THE HOLY CITY, by Ann Carnahan; with 150 photographs by David Seymour. Farrar Straus. 190p. \$4.

Timed to coincide with the Holy Year 1949-50, this is a behind-the-scenes story of Vatican City, its history, its activities, art treasures, and contemporary administration. It captures also the true spiritual atmosphere which surrounds the Holy City.

THE CHOSEN, by E. J. Edwards. Longmans, Green. 280p. \$3.

The dramatically written story of five young men called to the priesthood, told against the everyday experiences of life in a Catholic seminary. One by one they find themselves inadequate to the demands of their calling until one—the chosen—attains his great goal.

CARDINAL MINDSZENTY, by Bela Fabian. Scribner. 207p. \$2.75

The story of the modern Hungarian martyr to communism by a member of the Hungarian Parliament for seventeen years, a former Judge of the Criminal Court, a leader of the Independent Democratic Party. Dr. Fabian vouches for the Cardinal's efforts to save his people from racial persecution by the Nazis and refutes other charges brought against him in the People's Court.

DESERT CALLING, by Anne Fremantle. Holt. 364p. \$4.

The biography of Charles de Foucauld—sinner, saint, explorer, and priest—the French Lawrence of Arabia, who met his death in the Sahara at the hands of the savages among whom he had spent fifteen years of his life.

THE PASSION OF THE INFANT CHRIST, by Caryll Houselander. Sheed & Ward. 143p. \$1.75

A deeply spiritual work developing the parallel between Bethlehem and Calvary, written for the men and women of today to show that return to the Divine Infant is the logical answer to the peculiar suffering of our age.

LENTEN READING LIST

A POPULAR HISTORY OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH, by Philip Hughes. Macmillan. 294p. \$3.50

A fine summary of the history of the Catholic Church from New Testament days to Pope Pius XII. This excellent historian has condensed the religious developments of many centuries, as well as the relationship at different times between Church and State, without omitting any major movement.

CRUCIFIED WITH CHRIST, by Herbert George Kramer. Kenedy. 269p. \$2.75

Eight biographical sketches of persons—from Catherine of Siena to Gabrielle Maillet who died in 1944—remarkable for their loving acceptance of suffering in fellowship with Christ. Shedding light upon the paradox of our faith that to die is to gain, it will appeal to those attracted by personal holiness of life.

CATHOLICISM, by Henri de Lubac. Longmans, Green. 238p. \$3.25

This important work by a distinguished French theologian refutes the modern accusation that religion exists only for the interior consolation of souls and not for the good of society or its earthly happiness. Argues that Catholicism is social in its deepest sense, not only in its practical achievements but in the very essence of its belief and dogma. An important chapter deals with the Church-teachings on the salvation of unbelievers.

THE WATERS OF SILOE, by Thomas Merton. Harcourt, Brace. 377p. \$3.50

A study of the Trappist or Cistercian Order, its life, its history, its ideals, by the author of *The Seven Storey Mountain*. It is also a defense of the contemplative vocation and explains how the contemplative orders contribute to the apostolic work of the Church.

SEEDS OF CONTEMPLATION, by Thomas Merton. New Directions. 201p. \$3.

In these beautiful meditations the author shares the blessings which have come to him in the peace and seclusion of the monastic life. Its message, however, is addressed to all men of today, whether they lead an active or a contemplative life.

THE ROAD TO DAMASCUS, ed. by John A. O'Brien. Doubleday. 248p. \$2.50

A description of the spiritual odysseys of fifteen men and women who have followed the road leading to the Catholic Church. Varied as have been their experiences, they are all characterized by the ability to write movingly of their spiritual experiences. Excellent introduction, conclusion, and biographical notes by the editor.

RELIGIOUS ART, by Emile Mâle; with 50 illustrations. Pantheon. 208p. \$4.50

The Holy Year pilgrim to Europe's cathedrals

and other places of pilgrimage will find here the key to the great examples of religious art from the 12th to the 18th century. For the general reader, the book traces the developments and changes of content and thought expressed in each age, and demonstrates their origins and sources of inspiration.

TO EVERY MAN A PENNY, by Bruce Marshall. Houghton Mifflin. 345p. \$3.

This novel concerns the efforts of a humble French priest to walk in the footsteps of the Master who rewards the last even as the first. He learns that much of the labor is its own reward, just as much of the world is its own punishment.

MARY AND JOSEPH, by Denis O'Shea. Bruce. 404p. \$3.

A reconstruction of the lives of Our Blessed Lady and St. Joseph up to the time of their marriage. This work gives interesting details and some legends of the lives of the holy couple, together with a fine picture of the Jewish life of the times.

FATHER FLANAGAN OF BOYS TOWN, by Fulton and Will Oursler. Doubleday. 302p. \$3.

The warm and human story of the man who believed there were no bad boys, and who created for the destitute youngsters an incorporated village where at present more than one thousand boys are trained as responsible citizens, some with a trade, others for academic or professional careers.

THE FOLLY OF THE CROSS, by Raoul Plus. Newman. 139p. \$1.75

A study of the generous and effective love of suffering conceived by certain chosen souls co-operating with their Divine Master in the work of the Redemption. It shows how the folly of the Cross, although unchanging in the enthusiasm that gives it birth, has varied in accordance with the spirit of the times.

SAINTS ARE NOT SAD, comp. by F. J. Sheed. Sheed & Ward. 441p. \$3.75

Despite its title, this is a serious collection of forty biographical portraits to show the diversity and vitality of sanctity in men and women of essentially different personalities. They lived in many centuries, but are interpreted for our age by contemporary writers such as G. K. Chesterton, Hilaire Belloc, Father Martindale, etc.

PEACE OF SOUL, by Fulton J. Sheen. Whittlesey House. 292p. \$3.

Neither the book nor the writer need introduction, but briefly this is at once a work of spirituality and psychological analysis. It shows that the way to salvation for post-war frustrated man lies in the realm of the soul and that peace does not come from recourse to human but to Divine aid.

THE CATHOLIC LIBRARY WORLD

THE COMMONWEAL READER, ed. by Edward S. Skillin. 310p. \$3.50

Representative selections in various fields of writing which have appeared over the twenty-five years since *The Commonwealth* was founded. Widely diverse in subject-matter but united in spirit, they form an impressive array of creative and critical writing.

THE TEACHING OF THE CATHOLIC CHURCH, ed. by Canon George D. Smith. Macmillan. 2 vols. 1316p. \$12.50

One of the most important works to appear on Catholic doctrine. It presents the complete theology of the Church in two easily accessible volumes.

SAINT AMONG THE HURONS, by Francis X. Talbot, S.J. Harper. 351p. \$3.75

The epic life of St. John de Brébeuf, the Jesuit martyr who shed his blood to implant the Faith among the Indians of New France. The work contains fascinating insights on Indian life and customs and on the early history of North America.

THE STORY OF THE TRAPP FAMILY SINGERS, by Maria Augusta Trapp. Lip-pincott. 309p. \$3.50

A story of devotion to religious ideals which is at the same time a "success story" in the usual sense. It shows how one musically gifted family transplanted to America the best of the religious and regional music of their native Austria, and found an appreciative audience for it here. Told by the mother of the family, with simplicity, humor, and freshness and in an ideal Catholic spirit.

ST. IGNATIUS OF LOYOLA, by Paul Dudon, S.J.; tr. by William J. Young, S.J. Bruce. 484p. \$5.

A new, discerning portrait of St. Ignatius of Loyola, one of the most significant historical figures of all times, that recaptures all the vibrant yet soulful elements of his romantic, dangerous, and saintly life.

OTHER BOOKS

JOECKEL, Carleton B. (ed.) *Reaching Readers*. Berkeley, Calif., 1949. 124p. \$2.75

This series of papers, presented in San Francisco in 1947, are now available in printed form. The Institute, under the joint auspices of the University of California's School of Librarianship and of the A.L.A.'s Extension Division, was held on June 26 and 27, prior to the national convention. Naturally the papers have a strong Pacific coast slant, describing, as they do, the procedures followed by public librarians in the area, methods they have used to extend, popularize, or establish library service in their communities.

Some of the topics discussed are hospitals, banks, rural and metropolitan services, regional branches, branches in schools, the Bookmobile and inter-library cooperation. Carleton Joeckel, editor of the book and professor of library science at the University of California, presents one of the most instructive features of the Institute in his paper on "Service Outlets as the Reader Sees Them". A good piece of technical library literature, it has seven maps and diagrams, four of which are double-page foldouts, and a good Index.

The 1949 Booklist of the Marian Library. Dayton, 1949. 200p.

This impressive list of more than ten thousand titles of books dedicated to the praise and knowledge of the Blessed Virgin Mary, is the full flowering of the centenary efforts of the Marianist Brothers in their commendable project to make available to everybody the valuable works concerning Our Lady. Besides being a check list of titles, it is, as well, a full explanation of the method of the splendid Union Catalogue, so that, while having the nucleus of a good collection at the University of Dayton, they will have, as well, a card check list of all the cooperating libraries in the country. This will enable them, through the check list, to put suggested works at the call of students and will simplify the task of locating copies by telling where they can be found in any neighborhood.

We all commend the Marianists on this edifying project. We have, each of us, nothing but the best of good wishes for the project. Many have participated in checking their library holdings against the former check lists. The new, much increased list will in all probability bring about further cooperation in the work. Directives for this collaboration are given in the front of the book. Potential checkers are advised not to omit the Appendix, where many new titles are listed. From the added numbers enclosed for checking against the Dayton holdings, there is the feeling that the project is running along well ahead of schedule. Here, in fine, is a significant Catholic library project of interest to all and deserving of complete and devoted cooperation.

CLASSIFIED ADS

POSITIONS OPEN

Professionally trained man for Readers' Service in Catholic college library. If interested, write Brother Thomas, Librarian, Ryan Library, Iona College, New Rochelle, for application form.

WANTED FOR PURCHASE

ARMEN SEELEN FREUND, vols. 1, 2 (all nos.); v.8, no. 6; v.9, no. 7; v.23, nos. 1, 2; v.29, nos. 3-12. (Oct. 1889 to Sept. 1917.)

Address replies to: University of Portland Library, Portland 3, Oregon.